CAFO DISCHARGE PERMIT AUTHORIZATION MT-G010223

October - -, 2006

Mike Hofer, Secretary Hillside Colony P.O. Box 169 Sweetgrass, MT 59484

Re: Authorization MT-G010223to Discharge under the "Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation General Discharge Permit," Section 12, Township 37 North, Range 4 West, Toole County, Buckley Coulee, Marias River Drainage – HUC 10030203, North Latitude 48.97946 West Longitude 112.07191.

Dear Mr. Hofer:

The Department has reviewed the application for a Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (MPDES) permit to discharge to state waters and has determined that the above facility qualifies to operate under the administratively extended, August 15, 2000 Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) General Discharge Permit. *The General Permit is valid only when accompanied by this authorization letter*.

Authorization is granted to discharge only at the above-referenced location under the conditions of the attached CAFO General Discharge Permit *and* the following conditions:

- 1. The facility must be designed, constructed, and operated to contain all process generated wastewaters, plus the runoff from a 3.6 inch, 25-year, 24-hour rainfall event. The weather station to determine the amount of precipitation that occurs at your facility shall be the Sweetgrass I-15 MP 395.3 MT (MSWT) station. The permittee has the option of maintaining a comparable precipitation gauge at the facility.
- 2. The concentration of nitrate to state ground water must not exceed 7.5 mg/L nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen (NO₃+NO₂-N).
- 3. The facility must submit annual Discharge Monitoring Reports on the form mailed to you by the Department, each calendar year. The form must be completed, signed and submitted even if there was no discharge during the past year. If there was no discharge, write "no discharge" on the form, sign the form, and submit it to the

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Department. The form must be received by no later than January 28th of each year. Please submit the completed, signed CAFO Discharge Monitoring Reports to:

Jeff May
The Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Protection Bureau
P.O. Box 200901
Helena MT 59620-0901
Phone: 406-444-5326 E-mail: jmay@mt.gov

4. The permittee is authorized to deviate from the depth to bedrock design criteria in Department Circular DEQ 9, Montana Technical Standards for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, for the construction of their liquid waste storage pond, provided that the pond is constructed and operated according to the designs submitted with the Hillside Colony permit application.

The Department hereby also approves the waste disposal system as per your application. Any changes or revisions to the waste management system must be submitted to the Department.

Hillside Colony shall prepare an annual waste management plan that is site specific and addresses manure and wastewater handling and storage, land application of manure and other nutrient sources, site management, and record keeping.

Please review the waste disposal requirements, self-monitoring, reporting, and record keeping requirements. An inspection of your operation for compliance with the permit provisions will be conducted. Should the facility have the potential to degrade ground water, corrective action and site specific ground water monitoring may be required. Any violations of the permit or authorization letter are subject to enforcement action by this Department pursuant to the Montana Water Quality Act. If any questions arise, please contact Mark Ockey at (406) 444-5343.

Bonnie Lovelace, Chief MDEQ, Water Protection Bureau